

Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Petition for Waiver of)	
FCC Form 471 Filing Deadline)	
)	
Independence County)	CC Docket No. 02-6
(Independence County, BEN 158726))	
)	
Schools and Libraries Universal Service)	
Support Mechanism)	

**Petition for Waiver of
FCC Form 471 Filing Deadline for Funding Year 2017
RE: FCC Form 471 171048988 BEN 158726**

I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The Independence County Library (BEN 17010911, Child Library Entity to Independence County, BEN 158726) serves the rural population of Independence County, AR located in the north central part of the state. Funding Year 2016 was the first year Independence County applied independently for E-Rate discounts. Funding Year 2016 the library procured robust internet access via the E-Rate program and entered into a multi-year contract.

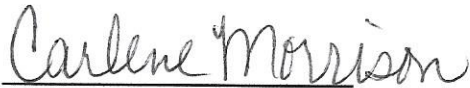
Independence County submitted and certified their Funding Year 2017 FCC Form 471, 171048988, in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) portal of the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company's (USAC) website, on May 17, 2017, just 6 days after the FCC Form 471 filing deadline of May 11, 2017.

A staff member of the rural Independence County Library works E-Rate into her already busy work schedule, and is the sole staff member performing E-Rate duties. The Independence County Library misunderstood program rules that state FCC Forms 471 must be filed each year of a multi-year contract that was procured in a previous funding year via the FCC Form 470 and Form 471 process. The library did not realize that they needed to file the Funding Year 2017 FCC Form 471 for the second year of the multi-year contract procured Funding Year 2016.

II. Request

Independence County respectfully petitions the Commission to request a waiver of the Funding Year 2017 FCC Form 471 filing deadline on behalf of Independence County to allow the Out of Window submission of their E-Rate Funding Year 2017 FCC Form 471 171048988, due to a misunderstanding that the FCC Form 471 must be filed yearly for multi-year contracts.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carlene Morrison".

Carlene Morrison,
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Dated: June 5, 2017